of the provision relating to barrier free access for persons with disabilities on public roads comes under the purview of the State Governments/U.T. Administrations and local authorities. The Government of India have issued instructions to all the executing agencies to make necessary arrangements for adopting barrier free features on the roads constructed/maintained by them.

Proposals from Chhattisgarh under coaching and allied scheme

†2548. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the date since when the approval of the proposal for aid sought by Chhattisgarh Government under coaching and allied schemes is pending;

(b) the reasons for its pendency;

(c) whether it is a fact that Merit Upgradation Scheme is also being implemented under the coaching and allied scheme for talented students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(d) if so, whether any evaluation of this scheme has been made; and

(e) the details of achievement made under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) **Coaching and Allied for SCs, OBCs and Minorities.**

This Ministry has not received proposal of Government of Chhattisgarh under the centrally sponsored scheme of coaching and allied assistance for weaker sections including SCs, OBCs and Minorities during 2005-06 and 2006-07.

Coaching and Allied for STs

No proposal under coaching and allied scheme is pending from the Government of Chhattisgarh.

(c) No, Sir.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The central sector scheme of Upgradation of Merit of SC and ST students is an independent scheme and is being implemented by M/o Social Justice and Empowerment for SC students and by M/o Tribal Affairs for ST students.

(d) **Scheme for SC students**

No evaluation of the central sector scheme of Upgradation of Merit of SC students have been done.

Scheme for ST students

An evaluation study for the Upgradation of Merit scheme for ST students has been commissioned for the year 2005-06.

(e) Number of beneficiaries under the central sector scheme of Upgradation of Merit of SC and ST students for the last three years (2003-04 to 2005-06) is as under:

Category	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
SC students	1378	1334	4398
ST students	512	303	658

Salaries paid to teachers in aided schools for disabled children

2549. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the great discrepancy that now exists between the monthly payments sanctioned for teachers in aided schools for disabled children and the salaries sanctioned for block-level teachers of disabled children by Ministry of Human Resource Development; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to raise scales of teachers in the aided schools to the same level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) Special schools for disabled children run by Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are assisted under the 'Scheme to Promote